

**Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

P.O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • www.deq.mt.gov

January 12, 2009

Newspaper: Helena (Independent Record), Butte (Montana Standard) and Great Falls (Great Falls Tribune)

RE: Application for Partially Dewatering the Drumlummon Mine located by Marysville, MT by RX Exploration, Inc., for Continued Exploration Activities in Lewis and Clark County

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your Sunday newspaper:

Legal Notice

Notice of Availability of a Draft Checklist Environmental Assessment (CEA) for Discharge of Treated Minewater to Groundwater under Exploration License No. 00674.

RX Exploration, Inc. (RX) is currently engaged in core drilling at the Drumlummon Mine under Exploration License 00674. The mine is located in Township 12 North, Range 6 West, Section 36 and Township 12 North, Range 5 West, Section 31 in Lewis and Clark County about 1/4 mile east of Marysville, MT on private land. The mine is flooded at the 400 foot level. RX needs to dewater the mine to allow exploration drilling in the lower levels of the mine. RX proposes to treat the water pumped from the mine and to dispose of it by infiltration to groundwater through a 2,000 foot long perforated pipe. The pipe would be buried to a depth of approximately 24 inches, located along an abandoned Northern Pacific Railroad roadbed.

The initial pumping rate would be 40 gpm. Following a trial period, pumping would be increased to 100 gpm, and then by 100 gpm increments from 100 to a maximum 400 gpm. Percolation tests have indicated a maximum rate of 500 gpm would be possible, but the lower rate provides a margin of safety. RX has estimated that pumping at a rate of 400 gpm for six months would dewater the mine workings to the 800 level. Pumping could then be reduced to a rate of 100 to 150 gpm to maintain this water level for the duration of the exploration project.

The pumped water would be treated as needed to remove arsenic in a treatment plant located underground. The Draft CEA lists proposed stipulations for monitoring locations, frequency and effluent limits as conditions of approval. RX has proposed surface water monitoring points along Silver Creek, both above the mine and below the proposed infiltration line. These sites are being sampled quarterly for a number of parameters, and would be monitored monthly during infiltration. Water leaving the treatment plant would be monitored weekly for arsenic and other parameters during infiltration.

This discharge authorization would only be valid for the exploration phase of the Drumlummon project. If ore recovery under a Small Miners Exclusion Statement is to occur, RX would be required to obtain a water discharge permit in order to continue discharge from the mine dewatering system.

The ground disturbed by construction of the infiltration line would be seeded upon completion to an aggressive grass seed mix designed to compete with spotted knapweed that infests the area. Upon closure of the operation, the discharge pipe would be removed and the disturbed ground seeded.

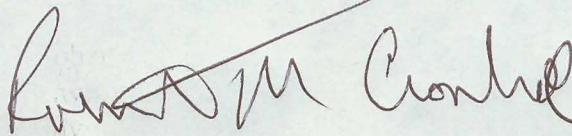
Copies of the Draft CEA can be obtained by writing DEQ, Environmental Management Bureau, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620, c/o Robert Cronholm, or calling (406) 444-4330; or sending an email addressed to rcronholm@mt.gov. The Draft CEA will also be posted on the DEQ web page: www.deq.mt.gov. Public comments concerning the adequacy and accuracy of the Draft CEA will be accepted until February 2, 2009.

For information on the project and to submit comments on the proposal, contact:

Robert Cronholm
Environmental Science Specialist
Environmental Management Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 2000901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
(406) 444-4330 or e-mail at rcronholm@mt.gov

To expedite payment, please send your invoice, original tear sheet, and affidavit of publication to DEQ at the address above to the attention of **Laura Turner**. Please indicate that the bill applies to Doc # 5039-0104. Thank you.

Sincerely,



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